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Environment and sustainable development

Convention on Biological Diversity

Note by the Secretary-General**

The Secretary-General has the honour to submit to the General Assembly, pursuant to its request in resolutions 54/221 and 54/218 of 22 December 1999, the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

* A/55/150.

** The document could not be submitted before 5 July 2000 because the Department of Economic and Social Affairs received the report from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity on 26 July 2000. The Secretariat of the Convention was not able to submit the report earlier because of the workload associated with preparation for and organization of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which was held from 15 to 26 May 2000. Furthermore, the Secretariat of the Convention deemed it beneficial to reflect the outcome of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties in its report to the General Assembly.

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Report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity

I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 19 of its resolution 54/221 of 22 December 1999 the General Assembly invited the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to it on the ongoing work regarding the Convention. In paragraph 11 (e) of its resolution 54/218 of 22 December 1999, the Assembly also invited the Executive Secretary to provide a report on how the activities of the Convention contribute to the implementation of Agenda 21[1] and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[2] for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session. The present report addresses both requests.

2. Since the previous report of the Executive Secretary to the General Assembly (A/54/428), the principal activities have been the adoption on 29 January 2000 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in May 2000. Details regarding the two activities are described in sections II and III below. Section IV provides further details about cooperation between the Convention and the United Nations. Section V reports on how the activities of the Convention contribute to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21.

3. At 19 July 2000, there were 177 parties to the Convention and a total of 68 parties had signed the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention.

II. Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity

4. The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity was adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at Montreal, Canada, on 29 January 2000 (decision EM-1/3). In accordance with the precautionary approach contained in principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[3] the objective of the Protocol is to contribute to ensuring an adequate level of protection in the field of the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health, and focusing specifically on transboundary movements.

5. The provisions of the Protocol establish an information-sharing mechanism that is intended to provide countries with the necessary means to take informed decisions about the risks and benefits associated with transboundary movements of living modified organisms covered by the Protocol. The central mechanism for this is the advance informed agreement procedures outlined in articles 7 to 10. The Protocol also contains provisions addressing the capacity-building needs of developing country parties and parties with economies in transition. The text of the Protocol is available from the secretariat or can be obtained from its web site at www.biodiv.org.

6. In accordance with its article 36, the Protocol was opened for signature at the United Nations Office at Nairobi on 15 May 2000. A total of 67 States and one regional economic integration organization have signed the Protocol. A list of these signatories is provided in annex I to the present report. The Protocol will remain open for signature until 4 June 2001 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. It will enter into force 90 days after the deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession by States or regional economic integration organizations that are parties to the Convention.

7. By decision EM-1/3 the Conference of the Parties also established the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to undertake the preparations necessary for the first meeting of the parties to the Protocol. In decision V/1 the Conference of the Parties welcomed the generous offer made by the Government of France to host the first meeting of the Committee from 11 to 15 December 2000 at Montpellier and approved a workplan for the Committee. An outline of the plan is contained in annex II. The work plan addresses all issues that the parties to the Protocol need to consider at the first meeting. Capacity-building, information sharing and the establishment of the Biosafety Clearing House are

some of the priorities to be considered by the Committee.

8. It is envisaged that one or two more meetings of the Committee will take place before the first meeting of the parties to the Protocol. Plans are being made for the first meeting of the Parties to take place during the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties in April 2002 at The Hague, the Netherlands.

III. The fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

9. The fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity took place at UNEP headquarters in Nairobi from 15 to 26 May 2000. It was attended by over 1500 participants representing 156 Governments, as well as non-governmental organizations, intergovernmental organizations and indigenous and local community organizations.

10. The Conference of the Parties reviewed the implementation of existing decisions and adopted 29 further decisions. Decisions that contain important developments in terms of implementing the Convention are:

Decision	*Title*	*Products*
V/1	Work plan of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	Programme of work
V/2	Progress report on the implementation of the programme of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems	Endorsed joint programme of work with the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat. The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to consider report of the World Commission on Dams
V/3	Progress report on the implementation of the programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity	Advice on and identification of priority areas for action on coral bleaching
V/4	Progress report on the implementation of the programme of work on forest biological diversity	Terms of reference for a technical expert group
V/5	Agricultural biological diversity: review of phase I of the programme of work and adoption of a multi-year work programme	Programme of work and decision on genetic use restriction technologies
V/6	Ecosystem approach	Description of approach and 12 principles
V/8	Alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species	Interim guiding principles
V/9	Global taxonomy initiative: implementation and further advance of the suggestions for action	Establishment of a network (based on national focal points and coordination mechanism) and identification of short-term activities
V/11	Additional financial resources	Workshop on financing for biodiversity

Decision	*Title*	*Products*
V/12	Second review of the financial mechanism	Terms of reference and procedure for review
V/14	Scientific and technical cooperation and the clearing-house mechanism	Strategic plan and longer term programme of work
V/16	Article 8 (j) and related provisions	Programme of work and general principles
V/17	Education and public awareness	Convening consultative working group of experts to identify priority activities
V/18	Impact assessment, liability and redress	The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to further develop guidelines and to convene workshop on liability and redress
V/19	National reporting	Guidelines for second national reports
V/20	Operations of the Convention	Strategic plan and scientific assessments
V/23	Consideration of options for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in dryland, Mediterranean, arid, semi-arid, grassland and savannah ecosystems	Programme of work
V/24	Sustainable use as a cross-cutting issue	Workshop on sustainable use
V/25	Biological diversity and tourism	Assessment of impacts of tourism
V/26	Access to genetic resources	Establishment of a working group and guidance for the World Trade Organization (WTO) on sui generis systems

11. The full text of the decisions is available from the secretariat or can be obtained from its web site at *www.biodiv.org*.

12. The meeting clearly demonstrated the growing maturity of the process. Of significant internal importance in this regard was the decision taken on the operations of the Convention (decision V/20). Two of the most significant developments in this regard were the Conference of the Parties decision to develop a strategic plan for the Convention and the decision to undertake a limited number of pilot scientific assessments in preparation for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Both developments will significantly focus the efforts of the process as a whole and enhance its ability to deliver products and achieve the aims of the Convention.

13. Significant progress was made in advancing the work of the Convention apropos its commitments on access and benefit sharing, indigenous and local communities and article 8 (j) and trade issues. With respect to access and benefit sharing the Conference of the parties identified some simple and essential steps that Parties should implement as soon as possible. The Conference of the Parties also established an ad hoc working group to develop guidelines and requested that the Panel of Experts on Access and Benefit-Sharing advise the Working Group on outstanding issues regarding intellectual property rights. With respect to intellectual property rights the Conference of the Parties also identified a series of specific questions that it requested submissions from parties and the Panel to consider. The Conference of the Parties also emphasized the importance of sui generis systems for achieving the aims of the Convention and invited WTO to acknowledge this. For article 8 (j), the Conference of the Parties endorsed a programme work for the Working Group on article 8 (j) and its related

provisions. It also recommended that parties consider taking a number of practical measures to assist with the implementation of those obligations, such as the establishment of national registers of traditional knowledge. Finally, the Conference of the Parties acknowledged the increasing links between the work of the Convention and the international trade regime. In this regard it anticipated growing links with respect to alien species, agriculture, intellectual property rights, article 8 (j) and its related provisions and biosafety. To that end it reiterated its request for observer status for the Executive Secretary in the WTO Council for the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and the Committee on Agriculture.

14. Pursuant to decision V/29, the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties is expected to take place in The Hague, the Netherlands, in April 2002. The Conference of the Parties has now taken over 100 decisions and launched programmes of work to address 5 ecosystem-based themes and 13 cross-cutting issues. As a result, policy has been and/or is being developed to address most of the issues raised by the Convention. The key challenge for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will be to demonstrate that not only can the Convention develop policy but that it is also an effective vehicle for its implementation. The priority issues for the sixth meeting — forests, alien species and benefit sharing — will provide crucial areas for demonstrating this effectiveness.

15. Central to achieving these goals and implementing the decisions of the Conference of the Parties will be the work of the parties in preparation for the sixth meeting. An important aspect of these preparations will be meetings of the various subsidiary bodies of the Convention. Annex III to the present report contains a tentative list of proposed dates and locations for these meetings.

IV. Cooperation with the General Assembly and other relevant institutions

16. In keeping with past practice, the Conference of the Parties placed considerable emphasis in its decision on cooperation with a wide range of bodies and institutions. Once again the relationship between the Convention and the General Assembly and its related bodies was of central importance. Important aspects of this relationship include: cooperation with the Rio conventions; forest biological diversity; sustainable tourism; financial support for the implementation of the Convention; education and public awareness; and exploring synergies with respect to scientific assessments of the ecological linkages between the Rio conventions. The focus of the relationship between the Convention and the General Assembly will, however, be the forthcoming 10-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the contribution that the Convention can make to this process. This last aspect is addressed in section V.

17. Cooperation with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa has been further developed. In decision V/23, the Conference of the Parties established a programme of work for dry and sub-humid lands that had been jointly developed by the secretariat and its secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification. In this decision, the Conference of the Parties also requested the development of a joint work programme and the establishment of a roster of experts on biological diversity of dry and sub-humid land in close collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the Convention to Combat Desertification.

18. The Conference of the Parties also noted that closer collaboration with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including its Kyoto Protocol was desirable with respect to a number of issues. To this end the Conference of the Parties requested its President, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, parties and the Executive Secretary to cooperate with relevant bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including its Kyoto Protocol, with particular emphasis on the issues of dry and sub-humid lands, forest biological diversity, coral reefs and incentive measures.

19. With respect to forests, the Conference of the parties urged Parties, Governments and organizations to advance the implementation of the programme of work for forest biological diversity, previously described in document A/53/451. The Conference of the Parties, in decision V/4, established a technical expert group to, inter alia, identify options and suggest

priority actions to: mitigate the direct and underlying causes of forest biodiversity loss, restore degraded forests and identify state of the art technologies with a view to assisting the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice consider these issues. The Subsidiary Body was also requested to develop advice on human induced uncontrolled forest fires and to propose sustainable practices for the harvesting of non-timber forest resources. The Conference of the Parties also suggested that the Subsidiary Body undertake a pilot assessment of forest biodiversity for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting. Parties were urged to consider without delay the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests and the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests on programme element II.d (v) on valuation of forest goods and services. Parties and governments were also called upon to take practical actions to address urgently the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity taking into account the outcome of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests and to contribute to the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests.

20. In decision V/25, the Conference of the Parties endorsed the assessment of interlinkages between biological diversity and tourism undertaken by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and transmitted this assessment to the Commission on Sustainable Development, along with the recommendation that the Commission incorporate the assessment in the international work programme on sustainable tourism development. The Conference of the Parties also accepted the invitation to participate in the international work programme on sustainable tourism development under the Commission process with regard to biological diversity, in particular, with a view to contributing to international guidelines for activities related to sustainable tourism development in vulnerable terrestrial, marine and coastal ecosystems and habitats of major importance for biological diversity and protected areas, including fragile riparian and mountain ecosystems, bearing in mind the need for such guidelines to apply to activities both within and outside protected areas, and taking into account existing guidelines. To that end, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a proposal for the contribution on guidelines, for example by convening an international workshop. As indicated in annex III to the present report, discussions have begun with the Government of Germany with respect to funding and hosting such a workshop. Finally, the Conference of the Parties decided to contribute further to the international work programme on sustainable tourism development under the Commission process with regard to biological diversity, and, in particular, to the review of its implementation, which will be carried out in 2002, and to that end requested the Subsidiary Body to transmit its findings, through the Executive Secretary, to the Commission at its tenth session.

21. In decision V/11, the Conference of the Parties emphasized the vital importance of adequate financial resources for the implementation of the Convention and reaffirmed the importance of providing new and additional financial resources through the financial mechanism in accordance with article 20 of the Convention. In order to address these issues, the Conference of the Parties invited the Global Environment Facility to assist the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the relevant international organizations and institutions, to convene a workshop on financing for biodiversity with a view to sharing knowledge and experience among funding institutions, and to explore the potential of the Global Environment Facility to act as a funding catalyst. The Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary to explore further collaboration with the work on financial issues on Agenda 21 under the Commission on Sustainable Development, and to contribute to the High-Level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development of the General Assembly in 2001. It is hoped that the workshop can provide a useful input to the Event.

22. Public education and awareness is a crucial aspect of the work of the Convention. In decision V/17, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to further develop activities designed to promote awareness. The Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to convene a consultative working group of experts to identify priorities for the proposed global initiative on biological diversity education and public awareness. An important tool for promoting awareness is the International Day for Biological Diversity, which has been celebrated on 29 December each year since 1994. Occurring so close to the end of the calendar year has meant that it has been difficult to fully capitalize on the occasion and the

interest of the United Nations to further promote awareness about biodiversity. Accordingly, the Conference of the Parties, in decision V/17, requested the Executive Secretary to consult the United Nations Secretariat on the feasibility of changing the designated date from 29 December to 22 May, when the text of the Convention was agreed and adopted.

23. An area of special importance to the work of the Convention with respect to cooperation has been the effort to further explore the opportunities to strengthen complementarities and improve scientific assessments of ecological linkages between the Rio conventions. An important initiative in this respect, which the Convention has fully supported and actively participated in its design, is the proposed millennium ecosystem assessment. For example, in decision V/21, the Conference of the Parties accepted the invitation of the millennium ecosystem assessment to be represented in the Executive Committee, nominated for this purpose the Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Executive Secretary. More importantly, in decision V/20, the Conference of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body to undertake a limited number of pilot scientific assessment projects in preparation for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and invited, among others, the millennium ecosystem assessment to work closely together with the Subsidiary Body in this area.

24. The secretariat has also placed great importance on its efforts to cooperate with relevant international processes over the last year. The global biodiversity calendar of events, which contains details of relevant meetings organized by other processes, has been maintained. The important purpose of the calendar is not only to promote coordination and cooperation between the Convention and other processes but also to facilitate the contribution of other processes to the work of the Convention. The secretariat has also continued its collaboration with the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development in order to assist with preparations for meetings of the Commission on Sustainable Development and other related matters covered by this Committee. The secretariat also worked with: the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests and its Inter-Agency Task Force on Forests and is hoping that the Task Force will be able to assist in the preparations for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on forests. The secretariat has maintained regular contact with UNESCO on a range of initiatives and is expecting to launch a global public education and awareness initiative in the next few months. Preparations for the first meeting of the parties to the Protocol have also required developing close links with numerous organizations addressing related issues. To that end the secretariat has participated in the Inter-Agency Network for Safety in Biotechnology to enhance the exchange of information and facilitate co-operation between members. Other participating organizations include the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, the International Office of Epizootics, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and the Environment, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Health Organization, and the World Trade Organization.

V. Report on how the activities of the Convention contribute to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

25. It will be recalled that the Executive Secretary and the Conference of the Parties made submissions to the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session regarding the contribution of the Convention to the implementation of Agenda 21 (A/S-19/13; see also E/CN.17/1997/11).

26. Many of the points made in those submissions are as relevant today as when they were made and remain germane to the 10-year review by the General Assembly. For example, the Conference of the Parties observed that the Convention was an important tool for translating the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and Agenda 21 into concrete actions. The Conference of the Parties also noted that the Convention had adopted an ecosystem approach, both in its provisions and in its programme of work. The working definition was that it was a strategy for integrated management of land, water and living resources that promoted conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. It was based on the application of appropriate scientific methodologies

focused on levels of biological organization that encompass the essential process, functions and interaction among organisms and their environment. It recognized that humans, with their cultural diversity, were an integral component of systems. The relevance of that idea to the implementation of Agenda 21 remains today and the definition represents an important contribution to the review process.

27. The Conference of the Parties also observed that the integration of biological diversity considerations into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies was central to the Convention. The importance of this observation remains central today despite the fact that it has proved very difficult to achieve. The Conference of the Parties also attached particular importance to cooperation with other biological diversity-related conventions, institutions and processes. As is evident from the decisions of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties this remains vitally important to the effective operation of the Convention.

28. The Conference of the Parties recognized that biological diversity was a cross-cutting issue and that it was of the utmost relevance to a number of the issues reviewed by the Commission on Sustainable Development, including the planning and management of land resources; combating deforestation; managing fragile ecosystems; promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development; and consideration of marine and coastal biological diversity. This is still so today.

29. With respect to the Convention and chapter 15 of Agenda 21, the Conference of the Parties observed that the Convention was the principal global instrument relevant to achieving the goals set out in chapter 15 of Agenda 21, conservation of biological diversity. That remains the case today.

30. The Conference of the Parties also observed that the Convention had significant relevance to other chapters of Agenda 21, highlighting in particular the contribution of the Convention to:

(a) National planning processes;

(b) Marine and coastal biological diversity;

(c) Terrestrial biological diversity;

(d) Environmentally sound management of biotechnology;

(e) Technical and scientific cooperation, and capacity-building;

(f) Financial resources;

(g) Financial mechanism;

(h) Major groups.

The same holds true now.

31. Importantly, the Conference of the Parties concluded that despite the progress made in implementing the objectives of the Convention, the parties remained aware that biological diversity was being destroyed by human activities at unprecedented rates. The Conference of the Parties noted that a significant amount of work remained to be undertaken, in collaboration with relevant conventions, institutions and processes, in order to fully implement the Convention. In particular, the Conference of the Parties recognized that attention needed to be paid, inter alia, to:

(a) The further raising of public awareness and the understanding of the importance of biological diversity through educational programmes and information;

(b) The rapid development and implementation of national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;

(c) The consideration of appropriate arrangements for access to genetic resources, and for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of such resources;

(d) The development of effective means to respect, preserve and maintain the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities and the equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization thereof;

(e) The transfer of and access to technologies relevant to the Convention;

(f) The provision of new and additional financial resources for the implementation of the Convention.

32. These challenges were acknowledged by the General Assembly in its Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21.

33. Significant progress has been achieved with respect to many of these issues. In the view of the Executive Secretary the most important achievements of the Convention in this respect are:

(a) First and foremost is the adoption of the Protocol on Biosafety. This instrument represents a significant achievement of the international community in many respects. Its procedures, for example, represent one of the most advanced and detailed elaborations of the precautionary principle in international law. The Protocol will also establish a series of mechanisms that will make a real contribution to technology transfer. In short, the Protocol provides an opportunity for many developing countries to gain access to information and technology for one of the most important industries for the coming century. As such it makes a valuable contribution to the implementation of chapter 16 of Agenda 21;

(b) The Convention has contributed significantly to the extent that the public is aware of biological diversity and the goods and services it provides, as well as threats that human activities pose to its long-term viability. A manifestation of this is the increasing diversity of participants in meetings of the Convention;

(c) More than 100 countries have implemented the obligation to develop a national biodiversity strategy and action plan. The significance of this step cannot be overestimated, especially given that it is the first time that such a comprehensive and wide-ranging planning initiative has been undertaken with respect to management of natural resources. An important consequence of this significant achievement is that there is now the basis in terms of information and policy to properly consider underlying trends and to identify priorities with respect to biodiversity, at all levels of governance;

(d) The Convention has also successfully implemented the concept of inter-agency cooperation. This is not only manifested in the various memoranda of understanding or the wide range of organizations that participate in the development of policy within the Convention process, but most importantly in the adoption of joint programmes of work with the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, and various regional seas programmes, as well as the Global Plan of Action for Land-Based Sources of Marine Pollution;

(e) Finally, the Convention has played a significant role in demonstrating that the Global Environment Facility can work and make a valuable contribution to addressing environmental issues of global significance and importance.

34. Moreover, further progress is expected by the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in April 2002. The development of a strategic plan, scientific assessments on forest and alien species and the entry into force of the Protocol are anticipated products by 2002. Further progress is expected with respect to the priority issues on the agenda of the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting — forest, alien species and benefit sharing — and the seventh meeting — protected areas, mountain ecosystems and transfer of technology and technological cooperation.

35. Despite these significant achievements, biological diversity is still being destroyed by human activities at unprecedented rates and, consequently, much remains to be done. For example, as stated previously, a key challenge facing the Convention over the next two years will be demonstrating that not only can the Convention develop policy but that it is also an effective vehicle for implementing it.

36. As a consequence of the realization that much remains to be done to properly implement the Convention, the Conference of the Parties recognized the importance of the forthcoming 10-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and adopted decision V/27 addressing the contribution of the Convention to that review process. In that decision, the Conference of the Parties welcomed the invitation of the General Assembly in its resolution 54/218 to the secretariat of the Convention to report on how its activities are contributing to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, for the consideration of the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session. It also welcomed the invitation of the Commission on Sustainable Development extended to secretariats of conventions related to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to support preparatory activities of the 10-year review, and to review and assess their respective programmes

of work since the Conference. It requested the Executive Secretary to support such preparatory activities and, in particular, to report to the Commission on Sustainable Development on progress made in the implementation of the Convention and encouraged parties, Governments and countries to highlight and emphasize biological diversity considerations in their contributions to the 10-year review. Consequently the secretariat has continued to participate in the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development and other mechanisms for assisting the Secretary-General in preparing for the review. Moreover, the issues will receive further attention at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in April 2002.

Notes

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[3] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex I.

Annex I

Signatories to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity

Participant	*Date of signature*
1. Algeria	25 May 2000
2. Antigua and Barbuda	24 May 2000
3. Argentina	24 May 2000
4. Austria	24 May 2000
5. Bahamas	24 May 2000
6. Bangladesh	24 May 2000
7. Belgium	24 May 2000
8. Benin	24 May 2000
9. Bolivia	24 May 2000
10. Bulgaria	24 May 2000
11. Burkina Faso	24 May 2000
12. Central African Republic	24 May 2000
13. Chad	24 May 2000
14. Chile	24 May 2000
15. Colombia	24 May 2000
16. Costa Rica	24 May 2000
17. Cuba	24 May 2000
18. Czech Republic	24 May 2000
19. Denmark	24 May 2000
20. Ecuador	24 May 2000
21. El Salvador	24 May 2000
22. Ethiopia	24 May 2000
23. European Community	24 May 2000
24. Finland	24 May 2000
25. France	24 May 2000
26. Gambia	24 May 2000
27. Germany	24 May 2000
28. Greece	24 May 2000
29. Grenada	24 May 2000
30. Guinea	24 May 2000
31. Haiti	24 May 2000
32. Honduras	24 May 2000
33. Hungary	24 May 2000
34. Indonesia	24 May 2000
35. Ireland	24 May 2000
36. Italy	24 May 2000

Participant	*Date of signature*
37. Kenya	15 May 2000
38. Lithuania	24 May 2000
39. Luxembourg	11 July 2000
40. Malawi	24 May 2000
41. Malaysia	24 May 2000
42. Mexico	24 May 2000
43. Monaco	24 May 2000
44. Morocco	25 May 2000
45. Mozambique	24 May 2000
46. Namibia	24 May 2000
47. Netherlands	24 May 2000
48. New Zealand	24 May 2000
49. Nicaragua	26 May 2000
50. Niger	24 May 2000
51. Norway	24 May 2000
52. Peru	24 May 2000
53. Philippines	24 May 2000
54. Poland	24 May 2000
55. Portugal	24 May 2000
56. Rwanda	24 May 2000
57. Samoa	24 May 2000
58. Slovakia	24 May 2000
59. Slovenia	24 May 2000
60. Spain	24 May 2000
61. Sri Lanka	24 May 2000
62. Sweden	24 May 2000
63. Switzerland	24 May 2000
64. Togo	24 May 2000
65. Turkey	24 May 2000
66. Uganda	24 May 2000
67. United Kingdom	24 May 2000
68. Venezuela	24 May 2000

Annex II

Work plan of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol

A. Issues for consideration by the Committee at its first meeting

1. Decision-making (art. 10, para. 7).
2. Information-sharing (art. 20, art. 19).
3. Capacity-building (art. 22, art. 28).
4. Handling, transport, packaging and identification (art. 18).
5. Compliance (art. 34).

B. Issues for consideration by the Committee at its second meeting

1. Liability and redress (art. 27).
2. Monitoring and reporting (art. 33).
3. Secretariat (art. 31).
4. Guidance to the financial mechanism (art. 28, para. 5, art. 22).
5. Rules of procedure for the meeting of the Parties.
6. Consideration of other issues necessary for the effective implementation of the Protocol (e.g., art. 29, para. 4).
7. Elaboration of a draft provisional agenda for the first meeting of the Parties.

The Committee will also take up items for continued consideration from the first meeting of the Committee.

Annex III

Tentative list of proposed dates and venues for selected meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Tentative dates	*Meeting*	*Venue*
11-15 December 2000	First meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol	France
12-16 March 2001	Sixth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice	Montreal
26-30 March 2001	Panel of Experts on Access and Benefit-Sharing	Montreal
4-8 June 2001	Workshop on Sustainable Tourism	Germany
19-21 September 2001	Workshop on Liability and Redress	France
22-26 October 2001	Working Group on Access and Benefit-Sharing	Germany
26-30 November 2001	Seventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice	Montreal
3-7 December 2001	Second Intersessional Meeting on the Operations of the Convention	Montreal
28 January-1 February 2002	Second meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol	Montreal
4-6 February 2002	Working Group on Article 8 (j)	Montreal
8-26 April 2002	Sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and first meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol	Netherlands